

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A container comprising:
an open top defined by an annular rim;
a base defining a lowermost surface of the container; and
a sidewall extending between the top and the base, the sidewall having an inner surface and an outer surface, the sidewall comprising a recess and an annular shoulder located between the recess and the base, the annular shoulder comprising an arched portion, the annular shoulder forming an inner stacking surface on the inner surface of the sidewall and the arched portion forming a raised ledge on the inner stacking surface, wherein a predominant portion of the inner stacking surface lies in a single horizontal plane, the sidewall being configured such that a the base of a second identical container ~~rests~~ is configured to rest upon the inner stacking surface and the raised ledge ~~sits~~ is configured to sit within ~~the~~ an arched portion of the second identical container when the second identical container is nested upon the container.
- 2-3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein the annular shoulder further comprises a means for stabilizing the container when the container is held by a user.
5. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein the recess terminates at the annular shoulder.
6. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein the sidewall further comprises an annular rib.
7. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein the sidewall further comprises multiple annular ribs, at least one of the annular ribs comprising a curved portion aligned with the recess.
8. (Original) The container of Claim 1 wherein the recess is longitudinal and arcuately formed.
9. (Original) The container of Claim 1 further comprising a measurably improved strength to weight ratio over a substantially similar sidewall having no recesses.
10. (Original) The container of Claim 1 further comprising an improved strength to weight ratio of at least 3% over a substantially similar sidewall having no recesses.

11. (Original) The container of Claim 1 further comprising an improved strength to weight ratio of at least 20% over a substantially similar sidewall having no recesses.
12. (Original) The container of Claim 1 further comprising an improved strength to weight ratio of at least 40% over a substantially similar sidewall having no recesses.
13. (Currently Amended) The container of Claim 1 wherein the sidewall further comprises a lower portion extending between the annular shoulder and the base, the lower portion comprising ~~a beveled portion~~ an exterior indented surface aligned with the recess.
14. (Currently Amended) The container of Claim 1 wherein the sidewall further comprises a lower portion extending between the annular shoulder and the base, the lower portion comprising ~~a beveled portion~~ an exterior indented surface aligned with the arched portion.
- 15-46. (Cancelled)
47. (New) The container of Claim 1 wherein the sidewall further comprises an exterior indented surface filling the area between the arched portion and the base.
48. (New) The container of Claim 47 wherein the exterior indented surface is concave.
49. (New) A container comprising:
 - an open top defined by an annular rim;
 - a base defining a lowermost surface of the container; and
 - a sidewall extending between the top and the base, the sidewall having an inner surface and an outer surface, the sidewall comprising a recess and an annular shoulder located between the recess and the base, the annular shoulder comprising an arched portion and the sidewall further comprising an exterior concave surface filling the area between the arched portion and the base, the annular shoulder forming an inner stacking surface on the inner surface of the sidewall and the arched portion forming a raised ledge on the inner stacking surface, the sidewall being configured such that a base of a second identical container is configured to rest upon the inner stacking surface and the raised ledge is configured to sit within an arched portion of the second identical container when the second identical container is nested upon the container.